Amendment

In the Claims

Claims 1-30 (canceled).

31. (currently amended) A method of synthesizing a compound of the formula 1

Y'-Si(Y)2-B-L-B-W (1), where

each B independently is O, S or NH,

L and each Y independently is C1-20 straight, branched or cyclic alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, alkaryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, heteroalkyl, heterocylic, alkyl-heterocyclic, or heterocylic-alkyl,

Y' is a capture tag, and

W is a reactive group;

the method comprising

(a) reacting a dihalosilane with Y'-E, where E is a leaving group;

(b) coupling the product of (a), a monohalosilane, with a compound of the formula B-L-B ~~to form a monohalosilane~~; and

(c) ~~displacing the halogen of the monohalosilane~~ reacting the product of (b) with W to form the compound of formula 1.

32. (previously presented)The method of claim 31 wherein Y'-E is a lipophilic alcohol.

33. (previously presented)The method of claim 32 wherein the lipophilic alcohol is selected from the group consisting of cholesterol or tocopherol.

34. (previously presented)The method of claim 31 wherein both Bs are O.

35. (previously presented)The method of claim 34 wherein L is selected from the group consisting of diethyleneglycol, 1,6-hexandiol, 1,4-bis(hydroxymethyl)benzene, thymidine and N4-benzoyl-2'-O-allylcytidine.

36. (previously presented)The method of claim 31 wherein each Y is lower alkyl.

37. (previously presented)The method of claim 36 wherein the dihalosilane is diisopropyldichlorosilane.

38. (currently amended) The method of claim 31 wherein the halogen of the monohalosilane is displaced with a ~~phosphine~~ compound of the formula B-L-B.

39. (currently amended) The method of claim 38 wherein ~~the phosphine~~ W is 2-cyanoethoxy-N,N-diisopropylaminochlorophosphine.